

Division of State Police

Founded in 1921, the New Jersey State Police is a diverse agency with a broad-based and evolving law enforcement mission. The State Police is charged with ensuring the safety of the general public by providing and maintaining statewide police services including those related to homeland security, general highway and traffic safety, criminal investigation and enforcement, intelligence gathering, forensic science and laboratory services, emergency medical transport, disaster management, support of local law enforcement efforts and maintenance of criminal records and identification systems. As a means of most efficiently carrying out its mission, the State Police is organized into three branches – Administrative, Homeland Security and Investigations. The Investigations Unit has been segmented into three Organized Crime Control Bureaus – each made up of a Street Gang Unit, Drug Trafficking Unit and Organized Crime Unit. These three anti-crime bureaus employ what is known as an Intelligence-Led Policing Model (ILP) — to more effectively target official corruption, illegal drug distribution and violent street gang activity throughout New Jersey. More information on the State Police is available at www.njsp.org.



Investigations Branch Highlights

Major Sweep of 'Nine Trey' Gang—

In 2006 the State Police, working in co-operation with local and federal authorities, arrested more than 60 members of the Nine Trey street gang, a violent subset of the Bloods operating in cities throughout New Jersey. The Nine Trey sweep was the largest single gang sweep operation in state law enforcement history, and was the culmination of an 11-month investigation. As a result of the effort, members and associates of the Nine Trey gang were charged with racketeering, conspiracy to commit murder, extortion, drug dealing and weapons offenses. In a related development, State Police arrested Atlantic-City-based recording studio owner John "Johnny Hooks" Abbey in November 2006 on charges of first-degree racketeering conspiracy for allegedly laundering more than \$100,000 in money for the Nine Trey gang. The arrest marked a significant break in unraveling how Nine Trey funds its illegal operations.

Expansion of Operation Ceasefire—

Through a \$750,000 state appropriation, the multi-agency, anti-violence effort known as Operation Ceasefire began expanding in 2006 from three cities – Newark, Irvington and Camden — to several other urban centers. The newest Operation Ceasefire sites include Asbury Park, Atlantic City, Elizabeth, Jersey City, Lakewood, New Brunswick, Paterson, Plainfield, Trenton and Vineland/Millville. State Police detectives were an integral part of the growing Operation Ceasefire effort in 2006, and will remain so in the future. Operation Ceasefire is focused on solving gun-related crimes, reducing street violence related to gang activity, cutting off the flow of illegal guns into New Jersey's communities, and keeping those weapons from reaching the streets.

Operation Slapshot—

As the result of a cooperative investigation by the State Police and Division of Criminal Justice into a multi-million-dollar illegal sports gambling ring, veteran New Jersey State Trooper James Harney was forced to resign in 2006. Former Trooper Harney subsequently pleaded guilty, in August 2006, to charges of conspiracy, official misconduct and promoting gambling. Another defendant, James A. Ulmer of Swedesboro, pleaded guilty to conspiracy and promoting gambling in December 2006. Charges remained pending against former Philadelphia Flyers hockey player Rick Tocchet. Investigators found that during one 40-day period alone, the betting ring took in more than 1,000 bets totaling \$1.7 million. While executing a related search warrant at Trooper Harney's home, investigators seized six plasma televisions, 32 high-end watches, a laptop computer, voluminous gambling records and more than \$14,000 in cash.

College Student Suspicious Death Investigation—

State Police devoted more than 300 Troopers and more than 100 recruits from two separate State Police training academy classes to investigating the death of 19-year-old John Fiocco, a student at The College of New Jersey who disappeared from a campus dormitory in March 2006. As part of the investigation, State Police led an exhaustive landfill search in Tullytown, Pa. resulting in the discovery of Fiocco's body amidst nearly 15,000 cubic yards of refuse. The landfill search had been triggered by discovery of blood evidence in a trash dumpster at Fiocco's TCNJ dormitory. Although investigation determined that the victim had at one point been in the dumpster, the cause and manner of Fiocco's death has not been determined, and the investigation continues.



Participation in Operation Falcon/Operation S.A.F.E. Guard—

During 2006 the State Police Fugitive Unit — working as members of the New York/New Jersey Fugitive Task Force — participated in the U.S. Marshal Service's "Operation Falcon III" sweep of violent criminals and sex offenders who had failed to register as required by law. The effort spanned a full week and resulted in the arrest of more than 500 people. Members of the State Police Fugitive Unit also conducted Operation S.A.F.E. Guard (Sexual Assailant Fugitive Enforcement) in 2006, which focuses on locating and arresting sex offenders wanted by county agencies for failing to register. Operation S.A.F.E. Guard began in Union County, and will continue until all 21 counties have been canvassed. In 2006, the effort resulted in the arrest of 38 wanted sex offenders.

Operation Ninja (Phase II) : State Police detectives, working in conjunction with the Division of Criminal Justice, developed cases against several new suspects as a second phase of Operation Ninja — an investigation targeting the theft and illegal resale of motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles and autos — continued in 2006. Launched two years ago, Operation Ninja focused on those involved with stealing, possessing, titling and falsely "stamping" motorcycles, ATVs and other vehicles. In December 2006, detectives from the State Police auto unit arrested Gabriel Evans and Jeffrey Morgan on charges related to the theft of motorcycles and titling of same. Not long afterward, additional members of the alleged theft ring were taken into custody by State Police including Gregory Kellum, Angel Carrion III and Tyrone Sapp. Suspects Kellum and Carrion were arrested at their homes, while Sapp was taken into custody at East Jersey State Prison, where he was scheduled for release after serving an unrelated prison term. Sapp was released to State Police detectives who promptly transported him to the Burlington County Jail to await adjudication of his new criminal charges — theft and receiving stolen property.

Clement Bilski /Operation Riptide Investigation—

Members of the State Police Digital Technology Investigations Unit spearheaded several significant child pornography investigations in 2006 including one that resulted in the arrest of self-employed carpenter Clement Bilski. In April 2006, a search of Bilski's Ocean Township home and subsequent analysis of confiscated computer media revealed images of Bilski sexually assaulting female children ranging in age from 15 months to seven years. The investigation also determined that Bilski had installed clandestine cameras in the bedrooms and bathrooms of several residences belonging to carpentry customers in Ocean and Monmouth counties. Bilski was charged with aggravated sexual assault, sexual assault, endangering the welfare of a child, creating child pornography, voyeurism and possession and distribution of child pornography. He was indicted by a Monmouth County grand jury in July 2006 on 523 criminal counts. In an unrelated child pornography case, State Police Digital Technology Investigations Unit personnel conducted an investigation known as Operation Riptide that led to the arrest of seven people for distributing child rape videos. Among those arrested was an elementary school teacher from Lower Township, Cape May County.

Taj Mahal Executive Charged with Commercial Bribery—

Members of the State Police Casino Gaming Bureau arrested George Klima, the Taj Mahal Casino's Executive Director of Purchasing, in April 2006 following an investigation that resulted in charges that Klima tried to bribe a licensed casino service contractor. According to the charges against him, Klima allegedly tried to compel Atlantic City Linen Supply to hire him at a salary of \$75,000-per-year for five years plus full benefits and relocation fees to Delaware. In return, Klima sought to implement new sales contracts between Taj Mahal and Atlantic City Linen that would provide the dry cleaning company a seven percent increase in revenues. The additional cost of dry cleaning services that Klima's employer,

Taj Mahal, would pay under the new contracts was designed to help Atlantic City Linen absorb the cost of hiring Klima. He was charged with commercial bribery.

Ozgur Yetim Casino “Markers” Investigation—

After approximately \$150,000 in markers obtained by gambler Ozgur Yetim at the Borgata Hotel and Casino were returned for insufficient funds, State Police Casino Gaming Bureau members launched an investigation into the credit activity of the Island Park, N.Y. resident. Ultimately, detectives learned that Yetim had obtained markers from seven additional Atlantic City casinos, and that all of them – totaling \$685,000 – had been returned for insufficient funds. Yetim was arrested in November 2006 at the Borgata while in possession of \$14,000 cash and \$6,500 in gaming chips. He was charged with eight counts of writing bad checks.

Homeland Security Branch Highlights

Operation Safe Freight: During 2006, the State Police Transportation Safety Bureau conducted eight separate details. Through the cooperative effort of the State Police and the New Jersey Division of Taxation, assessments applied to motor carriers during Operation Safe Freight resulted in recovery of more than \$405,000 for the State.

Hazardous Materials Response Unit—

The State Police Hazardous Materials Response Unit responded to 276 calls for service in 2006 including several suspected CBRNE and criminal incidents that involved such incidents as hoax anthrax threat letters and the recovery of biological materials.

Canine Unit—

Dogs assigned to the State Police canine unit were responsible for the recovery of \$4.4 million in currency, six kilograms of cocaine, 16 pounds of heroin, 43 pounds of marijuana and 2.5 pounds of methamphetamine. The unit also conducted more than 3,000 searches for explosives in 2006.

State Governmental Security Bureau—

Security enhancements consisting of \$1.2 million in construction and state-of-the-art upgrades were implemented in 2006 at the front of the New Jersey State House. Included in the enhancements was an upgraded visitor screening system at the front entrance to the building. This new area consisted of approximately \$900,000 in construction alterations and increased security measures including a state-of-the-art badging system for all visitors. The badging system retains all visitor information indefinitely, and produces a photo badge for each visitor. Each State House visitor now passes through a metal detector, and packages and deliveries are sent through an x-ray machine.

Administrative Branch Highlights

The New Jersey State Police initiated an effort in 2006 to obtain accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). If the volunteer effort is successful, it will help the State Police maintain the consistent standard of excellence it has achieved through the federal Consent Decree process. The CALEA accreditation process involves being evaluated against a set of approximately 446 professional standards organized into 38 topic categories. The CALEA's overall goals for participating police agencies include: strengthening their crime prevention capabilities, formal implementation of the most effective management procedures, establishing and maintaining fair and non-discriminatory personnel practices, improving interagency cooperation, and increasing community confidence.

